

HOUSE No. 1143

By Mr. Bosley of North Adams, petition of Daniel E. Bosley and John W. Scibak for legislation to establish a commission for adult basic education within the Department of Education. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION FOR ADULT BASIC EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law,
2 rule or regulation to the contrary, the Commissioner of Education
3 shall convene a Massachusetts Commission for Adult Basic Edu-
4 cation. The commission shall be comprised of up to thirty mem-
5 bers. Ten members shall be appointed by the Commissioner of
6 Education; the chair, four representatives from the field of adult
7 basic education (ABE) two business representatives, two labor
8 representatives appointed by the Massachusetts AFL-CIO and one
9 representative from early learning. One policy level member each
10 shall be appointed by: the Governor; the Speaker of the House;
11 the President of the Senate; the Secretary of Health & Human
12 Services; the Secretary of Administration and Finance; the Secre-
13 tary of Elder Affairs; the Chancellor of the Board of Higher Edu-
14 cation; the Director of the Department of Labor and Workforce
15 Development; the President of the Corporation for Business, Work
16 & Learning; the Director of Commission of the Department of
17 Transitional Assistance; the Commissioner of the Department of
18 Public Health; the Commissioner of the Department of Mental
19 Retardation; the Commissioner of the Department of Mental
20 Health; the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation
21 Commission; the Commissioner of the Department of Housing
22 and Community Development; the Commissioner of the Depart-
23 ment of Corrections; the Commissioner of the Board of Library

24 Commissioners; the Director of the Office of Refugees & Immi-
25 grants; and the Executive Director of the Children's Trust Fund.
26 The work of the Commission shall be staffed and supported by the
27 Department of Education.

28 The Massachusetts Commission for Adult Basic Education
29 shall establish a vision and a plan for the future of the ABE
30 service delivery system in which all under-educated and limited
31 English proficient Massachusetts residents have appropriate and
32 convenient access to effective ABE services. The Commission
33 shall explore but not be limited to graduation certification for
34 GED recipients and adult diploma program graduates. The Com-
35 mission will present recommendations to the Board of Education
36 for the federal, state and local roles in implement this plan.